



## News and Events in the 5th Grade

March 19, 2012

[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

### Important Dates

March 22	Brooks Tour Field Trip
March 22	Unit 7 Math test
March 22	Glog Group Project Presentations
March 23	Science Research Papers Due
March 26-30	Spring Break (No School)
April 3	Science Fair
April 12	D97 Choral Festival at OPRFHS at 7 p.m. Holmes students should arrive by 6:45 (Enter through the main doors on Scoville Avenue)

### Dear Families,

We have many activities planned for this last week before spring break. Our Spirit Week begins with Pajama Day on Monday. Please see below for specific themes for each day. We also will travel to Brooks for the official tour of the school on Thursday. Please be sure you have sent in the permission slip. You can find the file on the wiki if it did not make its way home. Finally, on Friday, we will have our annual student/staff basketball game. Students need to be sure to maintain good behavior and have all work completed, including the literature circle group glog (due Thursday) and science research paper (due Friday).

Please send signed report cards back to school with your child by Friday, March 23rd.

### ***This week is Spirit Week!***

**Monday:** Pajama day

**Tuesday:** Wacky hair/hat day

**Wednesday:** Career Day (Dress up as what you want to be when you "grow up" or another career you could be)

**Thursday:** Color day -- 5th graders wear green

**Friday:** Spirit day -- Wear red and black

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**Art** -The *Wednesday Journal's* "Design an Ad" contest winners will be printed in the newspaper this week. Students that won will have their advertisement printed in the paper! I will keep an extra newspaper for any Holmes student that wins.

**Music** - Chorus members have rehearsals for their Choral Festival starting this week (Tuesday p.m.)! If you have not sent a permission slip, please send one in with your child as soon as possible or fill out the online permission slip at this link: [Choral Permission Slip](#)

**Spanish** - In Spanish we are working on ordering food in a restaurant. Students are working in groups to create a skit that includes waiter/waitresses, managers, and diners. We will start performing the role playing this week.

**Library** - Information can be found on the Holmes Library page on our school website, <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

**Physical Education** - Please see Mr. Williams' link ([www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com](http://www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com)) for information.



## Reading/Literature TREASURES

This week students will be working on the comprehension skill of drawing conclusions to understand the characters and plot at a deeper level. Students will read *Zathura* by Chris Van Allsburg.

## LITERATURE CIRCLES

Students will continue working on creating a Glog to reflect what they learned from reading their novel. Glog presentations will be on Thursday, March 22nd.

## Language Arts

**Writing Focus:** This week we will start a creative writing project based off of the book *The Secret Shortcut* by Mark Teague. Similar to the adventure in the story, students must create a "shortcut" to help them get to school, but add twists and turns and obstacles they run into on the way. Students began prewriting by drawing a map of the events that happened on their way to school and will then write a well-organized story to go along with their map.

**Grammar Focus:** The grammar skill for this week is analogies and synonyms.

## Math

We will finish up our unit on exponents and negative numbers this week and we will have a short unit test on Thursday. After spring break, we will return to fractions. We will be working on multiplication and division of fractions, and addition and subtraction of mixed numbers.

## Science

Research papers are due March 23, and the Science Fair is April 3. Projects will be judged during the school day and the fair will be open to all at 6:30 in the evening. Project boards and presentations are due April 2, which is the Monday after Spring Break. Information on project board layout and the oral presentation are on the Science page of the 5th grade wiki.

This week, we continue working on the Human Body unit. We will be studying the skeletal and muscular systems. There will be a short quiz on Thursday covering those two systems.

Our first dissection will be on Thursday, April 13. We will be dissecting sheep hearts and we will need assistance from adults to handle the scalpels. If you can assist, please e-mail Ms. Manuel. Class times are: 5K - 10:45 a.m., 5P - 1:30 p.m. and 5M - 2:10 p.m.

## Social Studies

Last week, classes did a great job working on the Constitution using iCivics.org and an interactive game called Do I Have a Right? This game is accessible from home if your child would like to continue to play. It provides many games and activities to help students learn about U.S. government. This week, we will study the three branches of government and their responsibilities. We will have a short test after spring break.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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